

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1           1.       A game ball comprising a spherical carcass and a one-piece cover, the cover being  
2   free of a backing layer, the cover surrounding the carcass and bonded to the carcass without an  
3   adhesive, the cover having a thickness less than 0.8 mm.

1           2.       The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover is formed of a material selected from  
2   the group consisting of a wet process polyurethane, a dry process polyurethane, a coagulated  
3   polyurethane, other polyurethanes and combinations thereof.

1           3.       The game ball of claim 1, wherein the carcass includes a bladder and at least one  
2   thread wound around the bladder.

1           4.       The game ball of claim 3, wherein the carcass further includes at least one panel  
2   molded over the thread-wound bladder.

1           5.       The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover is formed of a material having a  
2   density within the range of 200-1200 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1           6.       The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover is formed of a material having a  
2   density within the range of 400-600 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1           7.       The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover is formed of a material having a  
2   density within the range of 250-350 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1           8.       The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover is formed of a material having a  
2   density within the range of 600-850 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1           9.     The game ball of claim 1 wherein the cover has a thickness within the range of  
2     0.2 and 0.75 mm.

1           10.    The game ball of claim 1, wherein the cover has a thickness of less than 0.5 mm.

1           11.    A game ball comprising:  
2                a carcass; and  
3                a cover layer formed without a backing layer, the cover layer substantially  
4     surrounding the carcass, the cover layer having a thickness less than 0.8 mm, the cover layer  
5     being selected from the group consisting of a sprayed-on cover, a painted-on cover, an electro-  
6     statically painted-on cover, a brushed-on cover, a dipped-on cover, and combinations thereof.

1           12.    The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer is a one-piece structure.

1           13.    The game ball of claim 11 wherein the cover layer is formed of a material  
2     selected from the group consisting of a urethane, a wet process polyurethane, a dry process  
3     polyurethane, a coagulated polyurethane, other polyurethanes, a plastic, and combinations  
4     thereof.

1           14.    The game ball of claim 11 wherein the carcass includes an inflatable bladder and  
2     at least one thread wound around the bladder.

1           15.    The game ball of claim 14 wherein the carcass further includes at least one panel  
2     molded over the thread-wound bladder.

1           16.     The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer is formed of a material having  
2     a density within the range of 200-1200 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1           17.     The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer is formed of a material having  
2     a density within the range of 400-600 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1           18.     The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer is formed of a material having  
2     a density within the range of 250-350 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1           19.     The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer is formed of a material having  
2     a density within the range of 600-850 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1           20.     The game ball of claim 11 wherein the cover layer is formed around the carcass  
2     without the use of an adhesive agent.

1           21.     The game ball of claim 11 further comprising an adhesive agent at least partially  
2     connecting the cover layer to the carcass.

1           22.     The game ball of claim 11 wherein the cover layer has a thickness within the  
2     range of 0.2 and 0.75 mm.

1           23.     The game ball of claim 11, wherein the game ball is selected from the group  
2     consisting of a basketball, a football, a soccer ball and a volleyball.

1           24.     The game ball of claim 11, wherein the cover layer has a thickness of less than 0.5  
2     mm.

1           25.     A game ball comprising a spherical carcass and a cover, the cover including a thin  
2     layer of backing cloth and a cover including a resilient cover material integrally formed with the  
3     thin layer of backing, the cover material selected from the group consisting of a wet process  
4     polyurethane, a dry process polyurethane, a coagulated polyurethane, other polyurethanes and  
5     combinations thereof, the cover surrounding the carcass and having a thickness less than 0.8 mm.

1           26.     The game ball of claim 25 wherein the cover is bonded to carcass with an  
2     adhesive.

3           27.     The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover material has a density within the  
4     range of 200-1200 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1           28.     The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover material has a density within the  
2     range of 400-600 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1           29.     The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover material has a density within the  
2     range of 250-350 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1           30.     The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover material has a a density within the  
2     range of 600-850 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

1           31.     The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover has a thickness within the range of  
2     0.2 and 0.75 mm.

1           32.     The game ball of claim 25, wherein the cover has a thickness of less than 0.5 mm.